

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03 OMB-01 PM-07 NSC-07

SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01 /090 W
----- 096906

R 141600Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8405
INFO CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN
COMNAVACTS SPAIN ROTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1709

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MARR ENRG SP
SUBJECT: USN REFUELING IN SPANISH PORTS

REF: MADRID 1543

1. SPANISH DIPLOMATIC SECRETARY OF JOINT COMMITTEE (PERINAT) DISCUSSED WITH EMBOFF MARCH 12 POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON FOREIGN MINISTER'S INDICATION AT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING (REFTEL), THAT SPANISH MIGHT REFUEL USN SHIPS AT SPANISH PORTS WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT FUELS PROVIDED ARE REPLACEMENT-IN KIND FOR FUELS PREVIOUSLY ADVANCED TO SPANISH NAVY BY USN. BEFORE PROCEEDING, PERINAT WANTED TO CONFIRM FIGURES SHOWING THAT SPANISH NAVY HAS IN FACT RECEIVED MORE THAN THREE TIMES AS MUCH FUEL FROM USN AS USN HAD DRAWN FROM SPANISH SOURCES. EMBOFF PROVIDED AVAILABLE FIGURES FOR 1973 WHICH CONFIRM THIS CLAIM.

2. PERINAT AGREED THIS COULD BE SATISFACTORY BASIS TO BEGIN REFUELING, BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT IT MIGHT NO LONGER BE A VALID BASIS ONCE CAMPSA AGREES TO BEGIN PROVIDING
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SPANISH NAVY WITH SHIP FUELS NOW DRAWN FROM USN STOCKS.

EMBOFF RECALLED THAT SPANISH NAVY HAS OUTDRAWN USN FOR CONSIDERABLE PERIOD; THEREFORE, UNDER CONCEPT OF IN-KIND REPAYMENT USN HAS CONSIDERABLE CREDIT TO DRAW ON. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT PRESUMABLY IN-KIND REPAYMENT CONCEPT IS ONLY AN INTERIM MEASURE TO SEE US THROUGH UNTIL BOYCOTT LIFTED. SINCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN USN COMNAVACTS AND CAMPSA PROBABLY WILL NOT GO INTO EFFECT IMMEDIATELY, THERE SHOULD BE AT LEAST BRIEF PERIOD IN WHICH IN KIND REPAYMENT CONCEPT WOULD-STILL HAVE VALIDITY.

3. PERINAT SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER MATTER TOGETHER WITH OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES. EMBOFF ASKED WHETHER EMBASSY COULD NOW INFORM SIXTH FLEET THAT ITS SHIPS VISITING SPANISH PORTS COULD EXPECT TO RECEIVE REASONABLE AMOUNTS OF FUEL. PERINAT REPLIED "I THINK SO", ADDING THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NOTIFICATION OF THREE DESTROYER VISITS MARCH 21 TO MALAGA AND VALENCIA AND THAT THEIR NEEDS WOULD PROBABLY BE MET UNLESS THEY WERE EXCESSIVE.

4. ON MARCH 14 REPRESENTATIVE OF CEPESA (FUEL DISTRIBUTOR) INFORMED NAVAL ATTACHE THAT USN SHIPS AT MALAGA AND VALENCIA MARCH 21 WOULD REFUELED.
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